



NEWSBRIEFS

Cellist to perform

Internationally renowned Cellist Zuill Bailey will perform at libraries in the El Paso Library system in December, according to spokesman Jack Galindo, as part of El Paso Pro Musica's outreach efforts to bring live classical music to diverse audiences, especially children. These performances are held at various public venues and bring the art of classical music to people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to enjoy it. All these concerts are free and open to the public. Zuill Bailey has established himself as one of the most sought-after and active cellists today. A graduate of the Peabody Conservatory and The Juilliard School, Bailey's principal teachers were Loran Stephenson, Stephen Kates and Joel Krosnick. He performs on a 1693 Matteo Goffriller cello, formerly owned by Mischa Schneider of the Budapest Quartet. His television appearances include a nationally broadcast recital for NHK-TV in Japan; a performance of the Beethoven Triple Concerto broadcast live nationally from Mexico City; a televised appearance in Havana with the National Orchestra of Cuba, in which he gave the Cuban premiere of Victor Herbert's Cello Concerto No. 2; three appearances on HBO; and an extended interview/recital on A&E's Breakfast with the Arts. He will perform Friday, Dec. 8 at the Lower Valley Branch Library, 610 Yarbrough, at 3:30 p.m. and again on Dec. 13, at 4 p.m. at the Dorris Van Doren Library, 551 Redd Rd. For more information on these or other library programs, visit www.elpasolibrary.org or call 543-5468.

RGCOG appointees

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed two regional representatives to the Rio Grande Council of Governments Regional Review Committee. Art Franco, Mayor of the Town of Anthony in the Upper Valley, and Jim Ed Miller, County Commissioner in Hudspeth County, have been tapped for two-year terms by the governor. The Review Committee is composed of 12 elected officials from throughout the region to work to ensure that available grant funding is distributed fairly and equitably and meets the needs and priorities of the region. Source for the grants to be prioritized is the Office of Rural Community Affairs Community Development Fund for critical community infrastructure projects such as water, sewer, street and drainage improvements. Other members of the RGCOG currently sitting are Diane Lacy, Jeff Davis County Commissioner; Jesus Calderon, Mayor of Valentine; and Manuel Molinar, Culberson County Commissioner and County Judge-elect.

In other news

■ A special moment was experienced recently in the life of a Mountain View High School student, senior Andy Chavez, with

See BRIEFS, Page 4

Adolescence is the period when children are certain they will never be as stupid as their parents.

— Quips & Quotes

Paso Del Norte students prepare for roles at UTEP and EP Youth Choral

By Irma Flores
 Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — A Paso del Norte student will be hitting this stage at UTEP this holiday season. Seventh grader Fernando Morales was asked to perform in UTEP's production of Charles Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*. The director heard about Fernie from a graduate student who saw him perform in the school's One Act Play, *The Yellow Boat*, last year. Fernie will be playing two roles — Peter Cratchit and Valentine.



Fernando Morales

Fernie has a dramatic flare that was recognized by his Theater Arts teacher, Marissa Vasquez.

"Needless to say, he was very excited and honored to be asked to perform on the UTEP stage. I am extremely proud of the determina-

tion and the talent that this student has shown us here at Paso Del Norte" says Vasquez.

The play will be performed Dec. 14-22 at the Wise Family Theatre, on the second floor of the Fox Fine Arts Building on the UTEP campus.

Eighth grader Ashleigh Clouser was selected to be a member of the El Paso Youth Choral. She says it is an "awesome" experience and she gets to meet new people. As part of the El Paso Youth Choral she has already performed with the El Paso Symphony at the Abraham Chavez Theater. She practices several nights each week and still maintains an excellent grade average. Her choir teacher at Paso Del Norte, Monica Gutierrez, feels that Ashleigh has an ability that is exceptional for a student her age. Ashleigh will perform with the El Paso Youth Choral on Dec. 2, 2006 at the El Paso Train Depot.



Ashleigh Clouser

Border patrol offers tips to make holiday crossing experience smoother

By Roger Maier
 Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials in El Paso are anticipating an increase in border traffic as the holiday season approaches. CBP officials are proactively reminding members of the traveling public that there are things they can do to cross the border quickly, safely and without incident.

The holiday travel season is a period when people who are infrequent border crossers may venture out of and then return to the U.S. In addition, regular border crossers typically cross more frequently than normal to shop and attend holiday functions.

"We believe we will be able to keep holiday traffic moving while insuring that all our enforcement concerns are properly addressed by reminding the public of the steps they can take to speed the inspection process," said David Longoria, U.S. Customs and Border Protection El Paso Port Director. "It is important that we do all we can to protect the American public while allowing law abiding border crossers to reach their destinations in a timely manner during this busy travel period. We believe these tips will help the process."

- Travelers should prepare for the inspection process before arriving at the inspection booth. Individuals should have their crossing documents available for the inspection and they should be prepared to declare all items acquired abroad. In addition, individuals should end cellular phone conversations before arriving at the inspection booth.

- Travelers should plan to build extra time into their trips in the event they cross during periods of exceptionally heavy traffic. This includes Dedicated Commuter Lane users.

- Travelers should familiarize themselves with the "Know Before You Go" section of the

CBP website at <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/> to avoid fines and penalties associated with the importation of prohibited items. "Know Before You Go" brochures are also available at border ports.

- Members of the traveling public should consult the CBP website site to monitor border wait times. Information is updated hourly and is useful in planning trips and identifying periods of light use/short waits.

- During periods of heavy travel, border crossers may wish to consider alternative entry routes. For example, border crossers may want to use the nearby and less heavily traveled Fabens or Santa Teresa ports of entry instead of the El Paso port.

- Visit the port of entry to obtain I-94 travel documents in advance of the busiest holiday travel periods. This will allow travelers who require I-94 documents (those planning to travel beyond the border zone or stay in the U.S. for more than 30 days) to bypass those lines when they formally enter the U.S. They will still be subject to the inspection process.

- Drivers should insure that the vehicles they use to cross the border are properly maintained and mechanically sound and that occupants avoid riding in areas of vehicles not specifically designed to carry passengers. Failure to follow these steps can expose crossers/passengers to carbon monoxide.

CBP officials continually monitor traffic and border crossing times. They plan to fully staff all inspection lanes during peak periods and to implement various traffic management operations to maintain the flow of traffic during periods of exceptionally heavy usage.

The principal mission of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is anti-terrorism. CBP officers at border ports of entry are committed to identifying and stopping terrorists and the tools of terror. As a result, border crossers should continue to expect a thorough inspection process when they enter the U.S. from Mexico.

One's not enough: Second Chickenpox shot recommended

By Brent Annear
 Special to the Courier

The physicians of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) want parents to know that one chickenpox vaccination may not be enough to protect their child.

Physicians from TMA's "Be Wise — Immunize" advisory panel have joined other national health ex-

perts in recommending a second shot of vaccine to prevent the potentially deadly disease.

"A two-dose series will be more effective than one and will reduce the number of breakthrough infections," said Ari Brown, MD, a leading member

of TMA's Be Wise program. Breakthrough infections occur when the patient is partially protected but not enough to prevent a mild case of the disease from occurring.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are now recommending a second chickenpox, or varicella, vaccination, primarily for children four to six years old. However, they also suggest adolescents, adults, and HIV-infected children receive a second shot. For the past 11 years, one chickenpox vaccination was the recommendation.

Physicians suggest children between the ages of four and six receive the second shot at least three months after receiving the first. People over the age of six can catch up by receiving the second shot anytime.

"I have always viewed the vaccine as a win-win: Either you are completely protected or you get a milder case than you would if you were not vaccinated," says Dr. Brown, an Austin pediatrician. She urges every person over the age of four to get the second shot of chickenpox vaccine.

As recently as a decade ago, many children suffered from lesions, itchiness, missed school days, and in some cases even death, from chickenpox. According to the CDC, more than 1,000 Texans endured serious cases each year prior to the introduction of the vaccine.

"People have the perception that chickenpox is not a serious disease because most adults remember having it as a kid," adds Dr. Brown. "But I had the unfortunate experience of caring for an unvaccinated child in the early 1990s who died from it. It's a disease I don't want any of my own children or patients to ever get."

Patients should double check their child immunization record and talk to their physician if they have any questions.

In 2004, TMA launched the Be Wise — Immunize public health program in an effort to increase Texas' childhood immunization rates and to educate parents and guardians that immunizations are important, effective, and safe.

"...I had the unfortunate experience of caring for an unvaccinated child in the early 1990s who died..."

— Ari Brown, MD



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Get more toys

We're imprisoned by our things. We are slaves

The name of the game is Get More Toys and the only rule is: "He who dies with the most toys wins."

Deliver me from my toys.

The stuff-poor affliction is particularly contagious this time of the year. Civilizations used to depend on the agricultural harvest season in which the crops were gathered and the prosperity of a community was calculated. Today we have the holiday season and the result is basically the same, except the crop we harvest is the profit we squeeze out of one another, and few of the crops we carry home are of the edible variety, unless you count fruitcake, which really isn't edible, either.

You can't walk into a store, turn on the television, even check your e-mail without somebody shoving

products of every size, price range and description into your face with the proclamation that it is something someone in your life is just *dying* to have.

The inference is, of course, that if you get this thing for someone, you will somehow gain a stature in their eyes that you could never dream of attaining otherwise, even if you are considering buying it for your cousin Willie who you don't really like much.

Still, the marketer screams, it would make you look good to give him something *really* special. And in the Get More Toys game, looking good counts as points.

It's a senseless game Americans play with gusto.

There's a new wrinkle in the Get More Toys game and like most things new, it has to do with the internet. Over the past several years, economic predictions about online shopping have wavered as to whether it would become a true economic force to be reckoned with or whether it was just a passing fad.

Wavering hath ceased. Internet shopping for the 2006 holidays even got its own special day this year: Cyber Monday was the first Monday after Thanksgiving and records were set and broken by the billions spent online.

"E-tailers" who were quietly betting that internet shopping would take off were also secretly gloating that they had a headstart on the really big merchants when it came to online shopping because the big boys were too heavily focused on stick-and-brick retail.

Guess who was among the biggest online stuff-merchants this year?

Wal-Mart. They had more toys.

Online shopping is also giving Americans an alternative to what we apparently consider one of life's most odious duties: Standing in line.

In a recent poll, standing in line came in as being liked less even than — get this — cleaning one's bathroom! No kidding! Visa USA asked 1,000 people standing in line in New York City which they would rather do. An astonishing 42 percent said

they would rather clean the bathroom than stand in line.

Other interesting tidbits from the poll, according to the Associated Press, include that 45 percent pass the time watching other people, 44 percent read or listen to music, three in 10 make new friends, and 25 percent go along adding items to their cart as they proceed to the checkout. However, 32 percent get so peeved they abandon their cart and leave without buying anything at all.

What with our distaste for standing in line, the bad news is that it's going to get harder to return those toys we bought or were given that we decide we don't want. Because there are other kinds of harvesting going on this time of year, namely return fraud — to the expected tune of about \$3.5 billion in 2006, merchants are tightening up their return policies by limiting the time in which a gift can be returned and demanding a gift receipt.

You know, the more I think about it, this Get More Toys game looks like one I'd just as soon not win.

Canutillo ISD to hold groundbreaking ceremony for new elementary school

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a groundbreaking ceremony at 10 a.m., Friday, December 8, to herald the beginning of construction of its new elementary school. The ceremony will be held at the site of the new campus, which is near the intersection of Borderland Road and Westside Drive.

The new elementary school will be built on a 26-acre site in the Upper Valley and will house pre-kindergarten through fifth grade students. The new school will alleviate overcrowding at Jose H. Damian Elementary School.

Mijares Mora Architects is designing the new 75,000 square-foot instructional facility, and VEMAC Construction Company will build it. Estimated cost for the new school is \$8.2 million, which is being funded through the bond issue that CISD voters passed in February.

The public is invited to attend the groundbreaking celebration.

— Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

Every weekend we receive our local *Weekender* paper filled with all kinds of advertisements and we usually just glance in it then throw it away. This week I decided to look at it a little closer and saw your piece entitled *Gender Bender*. I could not agree more with your opinion. We need to go back away and remember how good we had it. Maybe being naive about certain things could create a better society to live in.

If people would stop thinking how others would perceive them if they did something out of the norm life in general would be better.

When people ask me if I am for or against abortion I tell them first

of all I think the government should stay out of this decision making. The decision is pretty much left up to the woman. Whatever she decides she will have to live with for the rest of her life no matter what the decision.

On the other hand my opinion is that THE BIBLE states THOU SHALL NOT KILL and there is NO GRAY AREA at this point.

As for women or men choosing the gay lifestyle, again the government should steer clear of this area. If it makes them happy, so be it, but don't do it around me because I am REAL CLEAR that it is wrong. GOD created Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve.

I feel that all children need to know who their mother and father is. If down the road some medical assistance is needed these children that are being created through artificial means will have little to no hope in surviving. How are these people going to explain to their dying children that they have no clue who their biological mother or father is? Are they going to hold them as they die saying I'm sorry I can't help you? These children need a past just like we do. They need to know who their (ancestors) were.

Again I would like to say I agree 100 percent with your opinion. From now on I will read your column more often.

Kirk Paugh
Petersburg, West Virginia

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

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Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Energy future in El Paso

Over a year ago, I was briefed on an exciting new solar energy project called Power the Army, which was developed by many of our nation's scientists and engineers at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in California. I am absolutely convinced that this project will have broad and lasting implications for shifting our nation's dependence on non-renewable energy and I am truly pleased that it is taking place in El Paso. If there is any community in our nation that should invest and capitalize in solar technology, it is the great Sun City.

The Department of Defense, United States Army at Fort Bliss has been selected to be the site for the introduction of the three new technologies that will develop into the largest solar energy installation in the world. The three technologies are an Extractor, which extracts electrons from solar panels rather than the sun having to push them out of the panels; Inverter, which converts Direct Current (DC), which solar panels provide, into Alternating Current (AC), which we actually use, at nearly twice the efficiency of regu-

lar invertors; and a Control System, which controls the overall energy system.

The new technology from NPS is focused on cutting the cost of solar energy in half. Presently the cost per kilowatt hour is about 18 to 25 cents; the goal is to reduce it to 10 cents or less per kilowatt hour. In addition, the technology allows for the collection of power from sunrise to sunset, adding hours during the day when regular solar energy systems will not function. This technology also allows for solar energy systems to collect power in cloudy conditions, something solar panels cannot do.

The three new technologies, as yet, are not on the market but once they are, they will have huge implications for consumers and the private sector. Fort Bliss plans to farm solar energy on a ten square mile piece of land, producing about one gigawatt of energy, nearly equivalent to the production of a nuclear power plant without the issues of radioactive waste disposal. The idea is to run Fort Bliss totally on solar energy and pump additional energy into the nation's power grid.

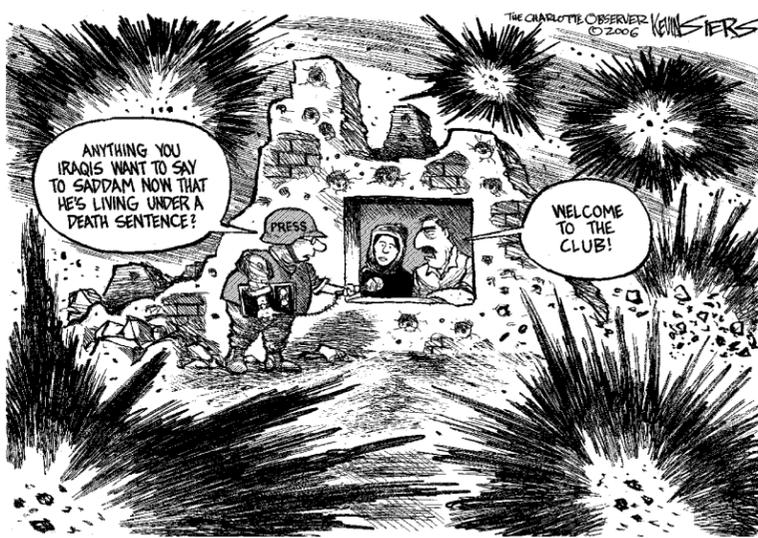
This project is on the fast track and will be accomplished in the next five years sending a strong message to

corporate America that if the military can become green through the use of solar, so can business, and the private sector. It is through creative projects like Power the Army that our country will begin to wean ourselves off foreign oil and energy dependence. Additionally, from the environmental standpoint, each kilowatt-hour of solar power produced compared to fossil fuel generation will result in 1,911 fewer pounds per year of carbon dioxide and six fewer pounds of nitrogen. The reduction of air pollution in our community, nation and world are important, yet achievable goals and projects such as Power the Army are making huge strides towards this end.

I applaud the creativity and forward thinking of the Fort Bliss Commander, Major General Robert Lennox and Garrison Commander, Colonel Bob Burns for approving this project with the goal of making Fort Bliss the largest solar powered installation of any kind, any where in the world. This project will revolutionize the way we harness the power of the sun; improve our environment; save the military and consumers money; and lead us to greater energy self-sufficiency.



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Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore Dec. 6, 1832: Sam Houston first sets foot in Texas. The rest is history...Texas history.

Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla



Your constitutional rights

Threats to our constitutional freedoms occur regularly. We must be vigilant to protect these rights. Recently the Supreme Court rewrote the definition of eminent domain to allow the government to seize private property for the benefit of private interests.

Do you think this is fair? Well, neither do I. The issue of property rights is a confusing one, but one that is important to all Americans, especially when the loss of these rights becomes a frightening possibility. The term "eminent domain" describes the sovereign authority of the government to seize the private property of citizens for public use. If your house is in the path of a new freeway, you might have to move, and as Americans we have accepted traditional uses of power such as this, even protecting it in the U.S. Constitution. The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution was designed to protect private property owners by requiring that just compensation, or fair market value, be paid when the power of eminent domain is utilized. It also mandates that seized properties can only be taken for "public use."

Unfortunately, the definition of eminent domain changed in June of last year when the Supreme Court ruled it could be used for much, much more. Governments can now take a person's home or business, bulldoze the land and give it to the highest bidder. The buyer can then build new homes, a strip-mall, hotel, tanning salon, sports stadium, or any other business that generates money. The new business may also create greater

tax revenue for the local government, but all at the expense of the original property owner.

Concern over the new ruling has brought people together from across the nation. The change in eminent domain will affect people everywhere. No property is immune. People can no longer trust that their home or business is safe from the government's financial interests.

Owning your own home or business is part of the American Dream, which I understand intimately. When my grandparents moved from Mexico to the United States, they did so with the hope of creating a new life in America. My father worked two jobs so he could afford to buy a house for my family. If this interpretation had existed when I was a child, our home may have been taken away and turned into a used car lot or movie theater.

While we are fortunate that our great state has taken actions to prevent this abuse from occurring on the local level, that was not the case this time last year. Last July, I authored and introduced the Strengthening the Ownership of Private Property (STOPP) Act, which would have prevented governments from taking property from one private party and giving it to another private party. My bill would also have denied federal dollars to any local or state government that abuses the power of eminent domain by confiscating private property for a private commercial venture. On top of all these protections, the bill forced state and local governments to provide moving ex-

penses for citizens relocated by abuses.

This bill received bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. More than 100 of my colleagues signed on to co-sponsor the legislation. In October, I co-authored further legislation that included the provisions of STOPP Act. This legislation, called the Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2005, passed the House of Representatives with 376 votes. The Private Property Rights Protection Act cannot overturn the Supreme Court's flawed decision, but it will protect people from the decision's terrible implications. Our legislation goes straight to the money and hit abusive local governments where it hurts.

This year, I was awarded with the 2006 "Protector of Property Rights Award" from the Property Rights Alliance (PRA) in recognition of my efforts toward protecting the rights of property owners. The PRA is an advocacy organization dedicated to the protection of physical and intellectual property rights. PRA's mission emphasizes private property issues including land rights and intellectual property rights. I am especially honored to receive this award for my efforts to protect the property rights of all Americans.

No government should be allowed to bulldoze a person's home or business to benefit other individuals. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to protect private property.

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I-10 Showdown with J.J. Jumper

Saturday, Dec. 16th

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NMSU vs. UTEP Men @ 7:05 pm

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County invites kids to go fishin'

El Paso's children have one more chance to catch that big fish that's been teasing every youngster and adult all year at Ascarate Lake.

The El Paso County's Parks and Recreation Department is featuring its last "Kid Fishing Day" of the year, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 at Ascarate Park. Children age 16 and younger are invited to participate in the family event. Younger children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Members of the Ascarate Fishing Club will provide supervision and guidance. Participants can bring their own fishing pole or one will be provided for them (while supplies last.) Bait also will be available. Prizes will be given out by age group to those who catch the "Biggest Fish," "Smallest Fish" and "Ugliest Fish."

Admission is free to the contest. Admission to the park is \$1 per vehicle. Information: 751-3851 and 772-5605.

— Contributed by
Guadalupe Silva

Marine, father shares his story with Rojas students



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

GOAL FULFILLED — Gunnery Sgt. Marquez tells the students how he received his NCO sword. He wanted to become a Marine while still in middle school.

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Veteran's Day brings many soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines to visit school classrooms across the city. But when Marine Gunnery Sergeant Javier Marquez visited a kindergarten class at Robert R. Rojas Elementary School recently, there was one special student in the audience. His daughter Denisse Xochiquetzal Marquez shared her father with kindergarten classmates and a few 5th graders.

Marquez was in El Paso for two weeks leave before returning to Fallujah, Iraq. He has been in military since he was 17 and spent the morning answering questions about living and working in Iraq.

From what does he eat and are there flowers, to when will the war end, Marquez shared his experiences. "Gunny Marquez" as he asked the children to call him told the kids he eats some of the same foods they do such as meatloaf, hamburgers, ice cream, cake and drinks lots of water.

He described the desert where he is stationed to the 4-year-olds, explaining there are no mountains like in El Paso. When they asked how hot it gets, he replied that last summer it went up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit but the hottest area he's been to was Kuwait where it was 136 degrees. When he returns to Iraq it will be cold and there may be rain but the worst conditions are the dust storms that reduce visibility to just a few feet.

Marquez talked about his jobs like Ammunition Chief Officer and Explosive Safety Officer. One student wanted to know what he does to keep up his self-confidence. He told her that the first and last thing he does is pray for his safety, to protect other soldiers and to give him strength. In addition to answering practical questions for the curious children, he wanted to explain why he chose the Marines and why he puts his life on the line each day. "What inspired me to be a Marine was to serve our country, protect our families, my wife, my children," he answered as his daughter looked up at him. "It's my pleasure to serve. I'm helping families and children." While he is protect-

ing them, the kindergarten students will be sending Marquez support by writing letters to him while he's in Iraq.

The 32-year-old, wearing his Marine dress uniform, showed the students his medals and ribbons and explained the stripes on his right sleeve. He then showed the class the NCO sword which was present from his parents. "I knew I wanted to be a Marine when I was middle school. I was the first one in my family to be a Marine. My parents were happy, very proud and sad," he told the students. He advised them: "Whatever you want to do, you have to do well in school, listen to your teachers and do your homework."

"Gunny" Marquez returned to Iraq on Wednesday, Nov. 22. The students asked him if he was going to miss having Thanksgiving dinner.

"Yes and no," he told them. "I am leaving on Wednesday, but my family is having Thanksgiving dinner over the weekend. I'm leaving very early in the morning Wednesday so I will miss Thanksgiving Day."

Marquez says the one food he will miss most is Chico's Tacos.

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Briefs

From Page 1

the signing of a letter of intent with El Paso Community College for the young man to continue his education and further develop his considerable skills as a runner. The moment was also special for many who have known and worked with Chavez during his high school years. "So many times in life, you see a student who has dramatically changed his life around and you want to share it with the world," said Elva Chavez, Student Activities Director at MVHS. "Andy transformed himself from a student who was in alternative school to a model student who has brought our school recognition. We at MVHS are very proud of his accomplishments. Although several colleges offered him scholarships he has decided to remain in town and develop himself as a runner." Chavez, the District 2-4A runner-up, signed during a ceremony on Dec. 1 in the school library.

■ Canned goods are topping the wish lists for 7th and 8th graders at Walter Clarke Middle School, 1515 Bob Hope Drive. The students in the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) classes are collecting food items for the school's Christmas Food Drive. All donations will be given to the SISD Holiday store which will hand out the items to families in Socorro. The group is encouraging donors to bring in food items that are side dishes to a holiday meal. Items are being collected at Clarke Middle School in room 311 through Dec. 11. For more information, call Veronica Vicencio, AVID coordinator/teacher, at 937-5666.

Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2006** during the **Regular City Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding the proposed ordinance and rezoning of the following property:

1) Proposed Amendment 013 to Ordinance 0102
— Amending:

- Section 202 — "General Definitions"
- Section 301 — "Use Districts Established"
- Section 401.1 — "Districts Established"
- Section 405 — "Bulk Regulations" and
- Section 407 — "Zero Side Setback" (R-GV)

to rezone property from R-2 Residential to R-GV Zero Side Setbacks, Residential for a portion of Section 30, Block 78, Township 3, Tracts 1B, 8, 10 and a portion of Section 31, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Surveys, El Paso County, Horizon City, Texas. Area consists of approximately 20.028 acres.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Planner Ed Hamlyn at the above address or call 915-852-1046. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Clerk (915) 852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 12/07/06

Canutillo Independent School District Notice of Public Hearing

AEIS Report

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2005-2006 Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report as part of the regular monthly School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 12, 2006, at the CISD Administrative Offices, 7965 Artcraft.

The public is invited to attend. The AEIS report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Canutillo ISD campuses and central office.

For more information, call 877-7440.

Junta Publica

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo

El reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica"

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar el reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica" (AEIS) del año escolar 2005-2006. El reporte será parte de la reunión mensual de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el Martes 12 de diciembre 2006 a las 6:00 p.m. en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas localizado en 7965 Artcraft.

Todos los individuos interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte AEIS estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito y en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas.

Para mayor información, favor de llamar al 877-7440.

WTCC: 12-07-06

San Eli HS senior attends Texas Women's Conference

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Like a seed needs water and sunlight, people need nurturing if they want to grow in this world. It doesn't matter if that person is from Middle America, the East Coast, or San Elizario, Texas, where 17-year-old Sarahi Perez has lived since moving from Houston as a small child.

Bright-eyed, confident, and eager to better herself, Perez is a feel-good story in the making, or a "work in progress," according to Lead Counselor Dickie Garza. This was why Garza and the rest of the counseling department chose Perez to represent San Elizario High School at the Texas Women's Conference, Oct. 12, 2006 in Austin.

"We were looking for a person who had some potential but was maybe needing a boost in self-confidence," Garza said. "Sarahi fit that bill. When we told her she was selected to go, she literally jumped for joy."

While her high school experience has been less than ideal, Perez is enjoying a strong senior year, an upswing that could lead to her attending college and eventually mirror some of the incredible women she met in Austin last month.

"The women there really inspired me," Perez said. "There were people like future NASA astronauts, successful businesswomen, and even Martha Stewart spoke. One woman, in fact, spoke about how women might be able to change this world."

The experience was a far cry from Perez's norm, where her paychecks from a part-time job at Golden Cor-

ral go to help her single mother. Without a college degree, Perez admits that the chance of escaping that life would be slim at best. But thanks to her experience at the Texas Women's Conference, she already knows how she is going to make her mark.

"I want to be able to be independent to where I can take care of myself and still be able to help others, too," she said. This is why becoming a prenatal nurse is her top priority. As a member of Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), she credits a visit to Thomason's Fabens Clinic and seeing a doctor in action with helping her choose her professional goal.

"My favorite part was hearing the baby's heartbeat," she said. "I wanted to stay at the clinic all day and help."

Hopefully Perez will be able to do just that. Meanwhile, she has already taken on more of a responsible role at home, especially since her household became a single parent household a few years ago. Right now, Perez is just appreciative of the opportunities she has, making up for the opportunities she may have missed during her first three years of high school.

"I don't have the highest GPA, I'm not top-ranked, and they could have picked someone smarter than me," Perez said. "But I think they knew I'd learn from this and that's what makes me appreciate them so much. I think they want me to know what is out there for me."

Call her a work in progress or a kid who is beginning to grow up, thanks to the help of the SEHS counselors, Sarahi Perez is hoping that her experience in Austin will be the first step in a life ready to bloom.



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

WORK IN PROGRESS — Eager to grab life by the horns, SEHS senior Sarahi Perez got a shot of confidence during her visit to the Texas Women's Conference on Oct. 12.

Commission taking applications for citizens' forum

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is seeking applications from community members interested in participating in the Rio Grande Citizens, Forum (RGCF). The RGCF was established in 1999 to facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and members of the public about Commission activities between Percha Dam, New Mexico and Ft. Quitman, Texas. The Commission is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the United States and Mexico. The U.S. Section operates and maintains an extensive Rio Grande flood control system in the United States.

The RGCF is intended to bring together community members en-

abling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the USIBWC and the general public, environmentalists, government agencies, irrigation districts, municipalities, and other interested parties. Duties and responsibilities will include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and activities associated with USIBWC projects in the area.

Terms for all 13 board members have expired so the USIBWC has decided to open the application process to the general public. Incumbent board members who wish to continue their service are eligible for re-appointment.

The board conducts regular public meetings, approximately four times per year, to discuss plans and

issues related to ongoing and future USIBWC projects. Meeting sites alternate between El Paso and Las Cruces. Board members are expected to serve a two-year term and to attend all meetings. Participation in the Citizens, Forum is strictly voluntary and members will not be financially compensated.

Members of the public who would like an application for the Rio Grande Citizens, Forum may contact Sally Spener at (915) 832-4175 or via e-mail at sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov. The application and additional information are also available on the USIBWC web page at: <http://www.ibwc.state.gov/PAO/CURPRESS/2005/RGCFapplication.pdf> Applications are due December 15, 2006.

archives: www.wtccourier.com

Don't miss the run-off!

Here's why

Your vote will determine your future. Henry Bonilla and Ciro Rodriguez have opposite records on the issues that matter most to you. Vote in this upcoming special election and make your voice heard.

On Taxes

Henry Bonilla voted **against the Death Tax** and for **cutting income taxes and the marriage penalty tax**. Ciro Rodriguez voted the exact opposite on every issue, and even voted eight times against lowering the marriage penalty tax.

On Terrorism

Henry Bonilla voted to **create the Department of Homeland Security** and to fully **fund those agencies fighting terrorism**. Ciro Rodriguez voted against strengthening our borders two weeks after 9/11.

On Private Property

Henry Bonilla has consistently voted to **protect private property rights** and is **pushing a law that stops government from seizing your land for special interests**. Ciro Rodriguez supported seizing private lands in West Texas, and voted to keep you from stopping government land seizures.

Early voting ends Friday, Dec. 8
Election Day is Tuesday, Dec. 12

HENRY BONILLA U.S. CONGRESS

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Public Notice Village of Vinton, Texas

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. prior to the Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 21, 2006 at City Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following:

- 1) An ordinance adopting a budget for the Fiscal Year commencing January 1, 2006 and ending on September 30, 2007 for the Village of Vinton, Texas.

Those unable to attend the public Hearing may submit their views to the Village of Vinton. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; Handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Secretary at (915) 886-5104, forty eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of the ordinance are available for review at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

Jessica Garza
City Secretary

Miners show some bounce in their step

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

All of us sitting on press row were thinking the same thing: "I hope this slaughter is over quickly so we can get out of here and get home for the Cowboys-Giants game."

The way they've played so far, could you blame us? But even if the second half of last Sunday's Cowboys-Giants game was as exciting as it gets, it didn't compare with what all of us witnessed at the Don Haskins Center.

The UTEP Miners basketball team has been less than impressive this season. New head coach Tony Barbee kept telling us that although the team was young and inexperienced, it would get better as the season progressed. He said this would eventually be a good team.

Of course, all of us media types thought he was using coach speak for, "What else can I say, fellas?"

None of us even thought the young coach believed his own words. That's why he's making a ton of money coaching and I'm just sitting at my computer writing about it.

The Miners stunned the 7,000-plus fans at the Don, especially the contingent from Albuquerque, by blowing out the previously unbeaten New Mexico Lobos 87-63 for their fourth win of the season against three losses.

After an exhibition loss to Lubbock Christian University, a regular season setback to Chicago State and a narrow four-point win over UC Davis, not much was expected from the team this season. Not much at all.

After all, their losses were to teams the Miners usually lead by 25 points at half-time.

In some of the early games this season, the Miner players have struggled just to pass the ball to one another without turning it over, let alone make any baskets.

Last Sunday against the Lobos, as most of us looked on in disbelief, the Miners looked like a team that just might make some noise in Conference-USA after all.

Before Sunday, the Miners consisted of Stefon Jackson and the rest of the guys. On Sunday, nine guys got in the game for UTEP, all nine guys scored, all nine guys pulled down a re-

bound and all nine guys played at least 10 minutes.

All said and done it was a tremendous team effort — the first of the season for the entire 40 minutes of basketball.

After the game, Barbee was proud, but still guarded, saying that the pressure is still on his team to get better. He said he had to keep making his team better and better.

I've got news for him — he already has. Whatever the Miners lack in height, experience and sheer athletic talent, they make up for with all-out hustle and energy.

Like Barbee said after the game, "They got every loose ball and every loose rebound."

Emerging from obscurity are players like Marvin Kilgore, who glides to the basketball without an ounce of fear. Malik Alvin, the freshman point guard who, after a shaky start, dished out 16 assists in his last two games while committing only four turnovers.

There's Jeremy Sampson, the 6-11 slim-jim, who is starting to play tall around the basket despite his skinny frame. And even the 6-foot-1 Pearson Smith contributed eight points and seven rebounds against the Lobos.

The Miners came into the Lobos game averaging 14 assists and 18.5 turnovers a game. UTEP handed out 19 assists and turned it over just 11 times. And for good measure, the Miners out-rebounded the taller Lobos 44-28.

UTEP will get a nice rest before they go on the road this Saturday for the first installment of the I-10 rivalry with the Aggies at NMSU.

I'm anxious to see how the Miners follow their best game of the season. The Aggies are much improved and will be yet another tough opponent (Penn, Syracuse, Texas Tech, New Mexico) for these young guys who are beginning to understand the teachings of coach Barbee.

I guess it still remains to be seen whether last Sunday's performance against the Lobos was an apparition, or a real preview of things to come. But like Barbee said, all good things come from the defense.

Defense, huh? I know one old coach around these parts who thinks coach Barbee is on the right track.

And I think there are a lot of guys on press row who are rethinking the subject as well.



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Classified Ads

LEGAL

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP/RFP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2007

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
CSP NO. 199-0110-7042
ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

NETWORK EQUIPMENT FOR CENTRAL SITE

CSP NO. 199-0110-7043
ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:30 P.M.

NEW CAMPUS NETWORKING REQUIREMENTS
CSP NO. 199-0110-7047
ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

PROFESSIONAL NETWORK SUPPORT
CSP NO. 199-0110-7048
ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:15 P.M.

METROPOLITAN AREA NETWORK UPGRADE
CSP NO. 199-0110-7035
ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Busi-

ness Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-12/07/06

COUNSELING SERVICES

D A M I A N MAUREIRA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family. Health insurance and fee scale accepted. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment. 12/07-12/21

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12/28

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SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Informacion: 838-6264.

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	(STOP HERE FOR \$5 AD.)
16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35

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THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Phone in a hug

By Don Flood

"Reach out and touch someone" used to be the phone company slogan.

And, yes, young readers, it used to be the Phone Company — a huge malevolent force that was finally defeated at the end of the Civil War when we dropped an A-bomb on it.

But now, through the miracle of useless technology, we can reach out and hug someone — by phone.

The Hug Shirt is a "Bluetooth accessory for Java enabled phones," which I realize means diddly squat to many people — including, unfortunately, myself.

Here's how it works: OK, I have no idea how it works, but here's what happens. You, the phone hugger, touch the red areas of the Hug Shirt you are wearing and this information is delivered via Bluetooth (about which we'll have a seminar later) to the other person, the phone hugee.

(Bonus Phone Hug Etiquette Tip: If you do this in public, people will think you're either really lonely or a nutball, unless of course they're a member of the educational establishment, in which case they'll congratulate you on your obviously high self-esteem.)

The delivered information — this is for real — includes hug pressure, skin temperature, heartbeat rate and time spent hugging.

Sadly, current technology doesn't allow for the transmission of realistic B.O. and bad breath info, but they're working on that.

You don't even need a Hug Shirt to send a Hug Call. You can create a hug using Hug Me software "and it will be delivered to your friend's Hug Shirt!"

And if that's good news for you perverts out there, it's great news for the phone companies because they'll be able to add lots of new features to their "hug calling" plans

(You'll also have to decide if you want "unlimited" or "weekend" hugging plans, etc.):

Hugger-ID — Checks ID before allowing hug.

Hug-Block - Blocks unwanted hugs.

Hug-Watch-the-Hands, Buster — Restricts time and body pressure from social obligation hugs you're not too excited about.

Plus these great services!

Hug-Answering — Stores hugs sent while you're not wearing your Hug Shirt: "You have four new hugs and 11 saved hugs. To receive your first new hug, press 1."

Group Hug — Allows people from all corners of the globe to experience a real, live (well, sort-of) group hug. (Maybe world peace will be achievable, after all.)

But like all great breakthroughs, this technology could also be used for evil.

Your enemies, for example, might trick you into wearing hug technology underwear and call in a wedgie. Homeland Security needs to be alerted about this possibility.

Time magazine has nominated the Hug Shirt as among the Best Inventions of 2006, which, I'm sorry, is just a little bit scary.

America used to be known as the Land of Great Inventions.

Now we've become the Land of Kinda Weird and, Frankly, Just a Little Bit Creepy Inventions.

In Tom Edison's day it was easy to come up with a slam-dunk idea.

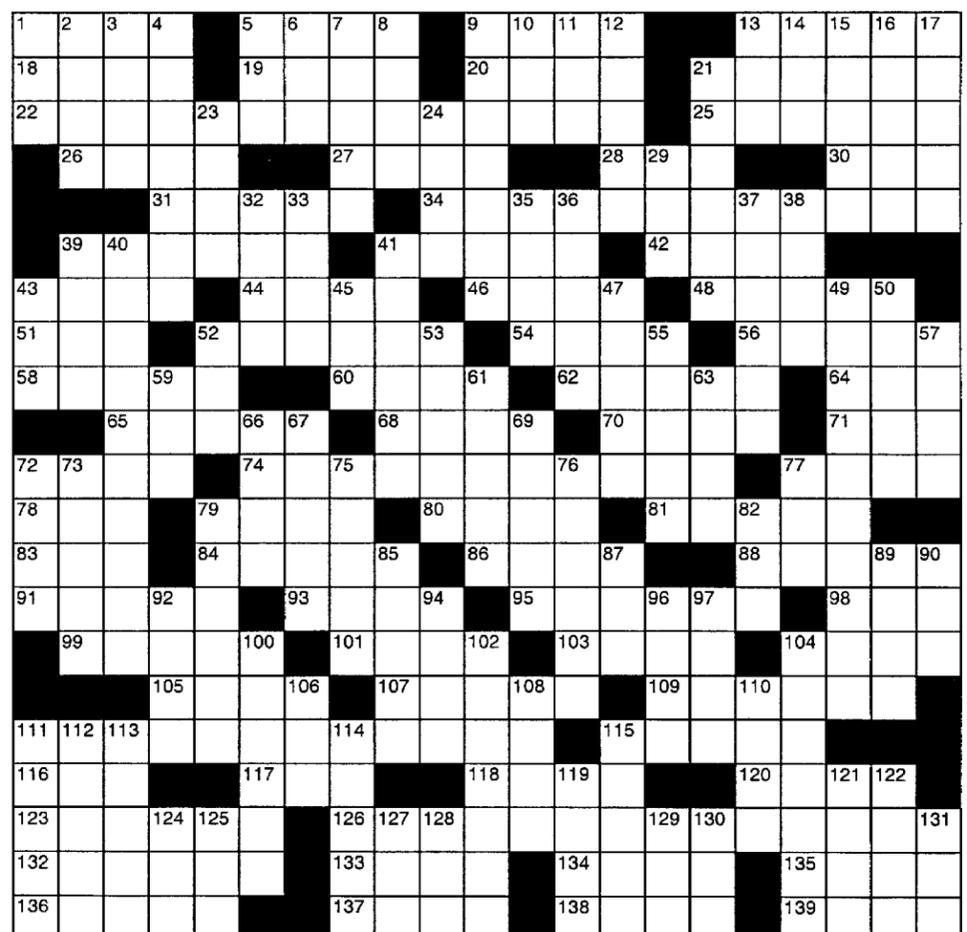
He'd say, "I know, I'll invent a light bulb so I can see what the heck I'm inventing." Or, "Wow, if I invented movies, I'd have something to do while eating popcorn."

And now? Well, I could use a shirt that gave a good back scratch while sending me the latest sports updates.

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King Super Crossword

- GREEN PIECE ACROSS**
- 1 Exchange
 - 5 " _ on Entebbe" (77 film)
 - 9 TV's " _ Bridges"
 - 13 Canadian peninsula
 - 18 It may be bitter
 - 19 _ Spumante
 - 20 Director Kazan
 - 21 Chaos
 - 22 "Green Card" actress
 - 25 Put the match to
 - 26 Big kid?
 - 27 Lofty
 - 28 Ford of football
 - 30 Hightailed it
 - 31 One of a bunch
 - 34 Green Bay Packers stadium
 - 39 Dieter's snack
 - 41 Streep of "The Hours"
 - 42 Act like a stallion
 - 43 Loathe
 - 44 Bucks beginning
 - 46 Mine car
 - 48 Coronet
 - 51 Gray matter?
 - 52 Occult
 - 54 The _ Brothers
 - 56 Depart
 - 58 Stiller's partner
 - 60 He gave us a lift
 - 62 Carve a canyon
 - 64 Illuminated
 - 65 Nick of "Cannery Row"
 - 68 To _ (perfectly)
 - 70 Alum
 - 71 Arafat's grp.
 - 72 Gulf state
 - 74 "Green Acres" actor
 - 77 Jackie of "The Tuxedo"
 - 78 Brooks or Ott
 - 79 _-dieu (kneeler)
 - 80 Galaxy glitterer
 - 81 Neighbor of 72
 - 83 " _ of You" ('84 hit)
 - 84 Annoys
 - 86 Budge
 - 88 Eye opener?
 - 91 Shortstop Pee Wee
 - 93 German river
 - 95 Bright inventor?
 - 98 _ es Salaam
 - 99 Come in
 - 101 Job opening
 - 103 Vegetate
 - 104 Impudent
 - 105 " _ Leaf" ('71 film)
 - 107 One of the Osmonds
 - 109 Blazing
 - 111 "The Green Man" author
 - 115 "Don Giovanni" setting
 - 116 Year, in Yucatan
 - 117 Nabokov novel
 - 118 Raindrop sound
 - 120 Leaf part
 - 123 Polly-syllabic one?
 - 126 "Green Tambourine" group
 - 132 Dubious
 - 133 Joyce's land
 - 134 Part of HOMES
 - 135 Den
 - 136 Abounds (with)
 - 137 Risked a ticket
 - 138 Coming up
 - 139 Org. founded in 1844
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Bath, e.g.
 - 2 Flicker feature
 - 3 Actor Ray
 - 4 Supple
 - 5 Aries animal
 - 6 Fit _ fiddle
 - 7 Like a mosquito bite
 - 8 Actress Conn
 - 9 Inn-based sitcom
 - 10 Bristol brew
 - 11 " _ vous plait"
 - 12 Berry of "Monster's Ball"
 - 13 Silence
 - 14 Writer Rand
 - 15 British county
 - 16 Pansy part
 - 17 Correct
 - 21 Stately dance
 - 23 Raison d'_
 - 24 Inspect too closely?
 - 29 Corn portion
 - 32 Bilko's employer
 - 33 Colors
 - 35 Pianist Hess
 - 36 Criticize
 - 37 Went down in history?
 - 38 "Dies _"
 - 39 Ablative or dative
 - 40 Green Mountain Boys leader
 - 41 Cocktail choice
 - 43 Actor's lunch?
 - 45 Pontiac model
 - 47 Consolidate
 - 49 Green Party candidate
 - 50 Saint Theresa's home
 - 52 " _ de mer"
 - 53 Quotes an expert
 - 55 "My fault!"
 - 57 007's school
 - 59 Baseball's Guidry
 - 61 Throne and pew
 - 63 See socially
 - 66 Austin of "Knots Landing"
 - 67 Roman magistrate
 - 69 Gladden
 - 72 Poet Khayyam
 - 73 Donnybrook
 - 75 Exploits
 - 76 It has a bit part
 - 77 "Fantasia" frame
 - 79 Fussles with feathers
 - 82 Guy
 - 85 Alabama city
 - 87 _ Grande
 - 89 Seldom seen
 - 90 "The A-Team" actor
 - 92 Forest father
 - 94 Wander
 - 96 Clout a cad
 - 97 "Eugene Oegin" character
 - 100 Tell tales
 - 102 Increased by 200%
 - 104 Full array
 - 106 Tie the knot
 - 108 Land in the sea
 - 110 Ferrer musical
 - 111 Done for
 - 112 Cockamamie
 - 113 Scandinavian
 - 114 Early Eastwood role
 - 115 Fern feature
 - 119 Harbinger
 - 121 Put on a happy face
 - 122 Lexicographer
 - 124 41 Down ingredient
 - 125 Hosp. areas
 - 127 Cool
 - 128 Poetic preposition
 - 129 Veto
 - 130 Cosset a corgi
 - 131 Mexican Mrs.



Answer Page 6

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: My daughter receives survivors benefits based on her late father's Social Security earnings record. She'll be 18 years old on December 5, 2006. Will she receive her last Social Security benefits payment in November or December?

A: Your daughter's benefit stops the month she becomes age 18. Her last payment will be for the month of November but she'll receive her last payment in December. You will be notified by mail before her last pay-

ment. However, as long as your daughter is unmarried, she can receive benefits up to age 19 if she is still attending elementary or secondary school (high school) full time. And she can receive benefits at any age if she was disabled before age 22 and remains disabled.

Q: My sister has become very ill and I am helping her get together the information and documents needed to apply for Social Security disability benefits. Will Social Security accept

photocopies instead of original documents as evidence when she applies for benefits?

A: Social Security will accept photocopies of W-2 forms, self-employment tax returns or medical documents, but must see the originals of almost all other documents. If all needed documents are not available, do not delay filing for benefits. Social Security will work with your sister to help get them.

Q: Earlier this year I read and heard a lot about people being able to get extra help with the new Medicare Prescription Drug benefit (Medicare Part

D) costs. I'm just turning age 65 and am ready to apply for Medicare. Can I still apply for the extra help?

A: Yes you can. The extra help can pay for part of the monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription copayments under the new prescription drug program, and it could be worth an average of \$3,700 per year. Basically, you may qualify for extra help if your income is below \$14,700 a year as a single person or below \$19,800 a year if you're married and living with your spouse. Your total resources must be less than \$10,000 if you are single or \$20,000 if you are married and living with your spouse. Resources include

such things as bank accounts, stocks and bonds, but do not include your house and car. And resources can be slightly higher (an additional \$1,500 per person) if you will use some of your money for burial expenses. You can now file online for Retirement, Disability, Dependent Spouse's Benefits and Extra Help by visiting our website.

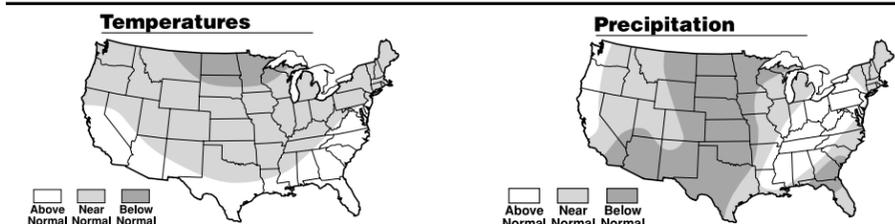
For more information visit your local Security office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Sunny and cooler	Mainly clear and cold	Sunshine	Plenty of sunshine	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy	Sunshine	Plenty of sunshine
55°	29°	58° / 30°	58° / 31°	62° / 31°	60° / 35°	63° / 39°	65° / 40°
RealFeel 54°	RealFeel 26°	RealFeel 61° / 28°	RealFeel 59° / 27°	RealFeel 61° / 26°	RealFeel 59° / 31°	RealFeel 68° / 42°	RealFeel 70° / 36°

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WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK



IN THE SKY

Sun			Moon			Last	New
	Rise	Set		Rise	Set		
Thu.	6:52 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Thu.	7:42 p.m.	9:38 a.m.		
Fri.	6:53 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Fri.	8:46 p.m.	10:21 a.m.	12/12	12/20
Sat.	6:54 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Sat.	9:46 p.m.	10:57 a.m.	First	Full
Sun.	6:55 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Sun.	10:44 p.m.	11:28 a.m.		
Mon.	6:55 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Mon.	11:39 p.m.	11:55 a.m.	12/27	1/3
Tues.	6:56 a.m.	5:02 p.m.	Tues.	none	12:20 p.m.		
Wed.	6:57 a.m.	5:03 p.m.	Wed.	12:33 a.m.	12:44 p.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	54	26	pc	54	36	pc	57	43	s	58	37	s
Albuquerque, NM	47	27	s	54	25	s	51	27	s	52	29	s
Amarillo, TX	42	24	s	57	28	s	56	28	s	58	28	s
Austin, TX	60	31	pc	55	35	c	59	44	c	64	43	pc
Brownsville, TX	64	42	r	59	43	r	62	53	r	71	58	c
Dodge City, KS	43	21	s	56	25	s	54	26	s	51	24	s
Jackson, MS	50	21	pc	48	24	s	62	35	s	64	40	c
Laredo, TX	56	44	r	58	43	r	56	47	r	65	55	pc
Little Rock, AR	43	23	s	49	25	s	59	34	s	54	37	c
Lubbock, TX	48	25	s	57	28	s	60	29	s	60	30	s
Memphis, TN	45	22	s	46	27	s	59	39	s	55	38	c
Midland, TX	51	29	pc	54	31	pc	55	35	s	61	34	s
Pueblo, CO	42	9	s	62	15	pc	53	18	s	52	18	s
Roswell, NM	49	25	s	60	26	s	59	29	s	59	28	s
St. Louis, MO	28	19	s	41	29	s	50	34	s	47	31	pc
San Antonio, TX	62	35	c	58	36	c	56	46	c	65	47	pc
Texarkana, AR	48	22	s	54	32	s	61	38	s	56	40	pc
Waco, TX	59	28	pc	58	32	pc	60	45	c	61	43	pc
Wichita, KS	35	21	s	49	27	s	54	29	s	49	29	s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

U.S. CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Atlanta	50	20	pc	47	22	s	59	32	s	57	38	pc
Boston	48	31	pc	36	26	s	41	34	pc	45	33	s
Chicago	18	12	pc	30	26	pc	40	27	pc	36	24	pc
Denver	40	21	s	56	24	s	53	22	pc	52	23	pc
Detroit	23	17	sf	29	23	pc	40	28	pc	40	27	pc
Houston	60	33	pc	56	32	c	60	47	r	64	53	c
Indianapolis	20	11	pc	32	24	s	42	30	s	45	29	pc
Kansas City	34	17	s	41	28	s	51	35	s	45	29	pc
Los Angeles	76	51	s	72	50	pc	69	51	s	67	49	sh
Miami	82	62	c	73	60	pc	73	64	pc	76	68	c
Minneapolis	16	8	pc	30	21	pc	38	22	pc	34	21	pc
New Orleans	59	34	pc	53	37	pc	60	49	pc	65	51	c
New York City	48	31	pc	34	29	s	44	38	pc	47	38	s
Omaha	30	17	s	39	24	s	51	26	s	41	22	pc
Phoenix	75	46	s	75	44	pc	71	45	s	72	44	s
San Francisco	65	48	s	63	54	r	61	50	r	60	48	sh
Seattle	47	36	pc	47	39	c	47	39	r	48	39	c
Washington	50	27	pc	39	28	s	47	35	s	54	35	s

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